

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



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NEWS RELEASE

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District Three Chief of Staff To Attend JFK School of Government Senior Executives Program at Harvard

Jeff Gattas To Attend Session Focusing on State and Local Government

SAN DIEGO-Third District Councilmember Toni Atkins is pleased to announce that her Chief of Staff, Jeff Gattas, has been selected to attend the John F. Kennedy School of Government Senior Executives program in state and local government at Harvard University this summer. The three-week session, beginning June 9th, provides training to help officials assess the tasks they face in managing today's results-driven government. In particular, the program provides an opportunity for the Senior Executives to develop new conceptual frameworks for addressing policy issues, explore the relationship between citizens and government, examine the ethical and professional responsibilities of leadership, and exchange ideas with experienced faculty and participants from diverse backgrounds.

"I feel privileged and honored to be selected for the Harvard Senior Executives program," stated Gattas, "I'm hopeful that I will be able to build on my experiences, both personally and professionally, to give me a better understanding or a new way of addressing the challenges, policies or issues we face in San Diego."

In addition, Gattas was awarded a full scholarship by the Victory Foundation. The Victory Foundation is a national education and public-interest organization which prepares lesbians and gays to enter civic life and participate at the public policy table.

"We in San Diego's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community continue to cultivate a new generation of leaders to run for office, serve on boards and commissions or to organize our community at all levels," noted Atkins, "We need to make sure that our new generation of leaders have the skills, confidence and understanding to address the changes and challenges that we will face. I believe the Senior Executive program will help Jeff gain that knowledge to become a well-rounded leader in the LGBT community and the greater San Diego community at large."

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